

PATENT

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/727,174 Confirmation No. 5606  
Applicant : Montgomery et al.  
Filed : 11/30/2000  
TC/A.U. : 2182  
Examiner : Patel, Niketa I.  
Docket No. : 40.0023 C1  
Customer No. :

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 29, 2003, with a period for response to expire after January 29, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.